



# "Interwoven Narratives: Exploring Human Values, Activism, And Indigenous Literature Through Sea Of Poppies, The Lowland, The Far Field, The Ministry Of Utmost Happiness, And The Sympathizer"

1Ragini Singh, 2Adeeb Umar, 3Muskan Singh

1Student , 2Student , 3Student

1Amity University, Noida Uttar Pradesh ,

2Amity University, Noida Uttar Pradesh ,

3Amity University , Noida Uttar pradesh

## ABSTRACT

The subjects of this research study are Indigenous literature, human values, and activism. This paper examines activism, human values, and Indigenous writing from 2008 to 2015 concerning several novels, including Amitav Ghosh's Sea of Poppies, Jhumpa Lahiri's The Lowland, Arundhati Roy's The Ministry of Utmost Happiness, Viet Thanh Nguyen's The Sympathizer, Madhuri Vijay's The Far Field. By examining and promoting indigenous literature, the project seeks to increase activism related to human values. The goal of this research is to promote a greater understanding of common human values like justice, equality, respect, and environmental stewardship by utilising the rich cultural histories and distinctive viewpoints found in indigenous literature.

## INTRODUCTION

The principles of activism, human values, and indigenous literature are interrelated and represent the intricate interplay among social justice, cultural identity, and the preservation of varied voices and viewpoints. Indigenous literature, human values, and activism all come together to show how important storytelling and cultural expression are in the struggle against injustice and advancing human dignity. Indigenous literature is a crucial medium for making marginalised populations' voices heard, understood, and appreciated in the

context of human values-driven activism. These components are related because they share a dedication to creating a fairer and more equitable global society.

The term "activism" describes the initiatives and activities used by people, organizations, or movements to affect social, political, economic, or environmental change. To improve society, activists work to advance, obstruct, direct, or intervene in societal, political, economic, or environmental reform. Between 2008 and 2015, there were several noteworthy activist movements in Asia, including The Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) (various years) in India, The Umbrella Movement (2014) in Hong Kong, The Sunflower Movement (2014) in Taiwan, The Bersih movement (various years) in Malaysia, The Anti-Thaksin Protests (various years) in Thailand, Advocacy for Refugee Rights in Vietnam and numerous others. There are numerous approaches to being an activist, such as through direct action, advocacy, lobbying, education, and protests.

The literary works created by indigenous peoples, which frequently convey their perspectives, life experiences, and cultural heritage, are collectively referred to as indigenous literature. It encompasses a broad spectrum of genres, including non-fiction, poetry, oral storytelling, and fiction. The preservation and dissemination of indigenous knowledge, customs, and values can be accomplished efficiently through the implementation of indigenous literature. It frequently discusses topics like cultural identity, colonization, and the continuous hardships that indigenous groups confront. Through their narratives, indigenous writers add to the larger conversation about diversity, representation, and the value of recognizing various points of view.

One of the most significant indigenous works written in 2008, *Sea of Poppies* by Amitav Ghose, discusses Activism concerning Human Values in the year 1838 when India was ruled by the British. The novel is set against the backdrop of the 19th-century opium trade, with a special emphasis on the occasions leading up to China and Britain's First Opium War. The East India Company forced Indians to cultivate opium poppies under coercion, and the drug that resulted was smuggled into China, which at the time had a massive trading surplus and little need for lawfully imported goods, ultimately helping the British balance of payments. ." In her article, "Literature and Activism, Literature as Activism," Betty Wilson discusses how literature serves as a powerful tool for indigenous writers to engage with and critique the socio-political landscape, giving voiceless and marginalized voices a platform (Wilson 2020). In addition to human values like identity, freedom, and self-discovery, the novel touches on several socio-political issues, including anti-opium campaigning, sentiments against slavery, opposition to colonialism, and cultural and social activism. By utilizing King's definition of "literary activism," *Sea of Poppies* can be interpreted as a piece of socially and politically conscious literature that highlights the wrongs of colonialism and imperialism (King, 2022).

Along with *Sea of Poppies*, Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Lowland* and Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* delve into the complexities of human relationships and political and socioeconomic issues. Since its 2013 publication, *The Lowland* has been praised by critics for its vivid prose, gripping narrative, and examination of the immigrant experience and the effects of political and historical developments on people and families. The novel explores the complexities of cultural and personal identity, which is devastating and

thought-provoking. The narrative by Jhumpa Lahiri is a sprawling, multigenerational story about two brothers named Subhash and Udayan who grew up in Calcutta in the late 1960s amid increasing political unrest. Mendible addresses in Literature Activism how post-colonial writers worldwide are utilizing activist literature as a means of self-expression.(Mandible, 2014). In *The Lowland*, Lahiri uses an artistic technique to highlight historical events and frequently ignored viewpoints. In the essay "Revising Strategies," Lisa J. Udel discusses how writers try to promote decolonization to develop an informed audience and engage students. The major objective is to empower readers to actively participate in decolonization efforts by increasing their knowledge and understanding of the subjects addressed in the literature.

Arundhati Roy, an acclaimed Indian author, essayist, and political activist, was born in 1961 in Shillong, India. She rose to international prominence with her first novel, *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, which earned her the Man Booker Prize for Fiction in 1997. Roy's writing frequently delves into topics of social injustice, oppression, and post-colonialism, with her prose reasoning with readers through its emotive power. Alongside her literary pursuits, Roy has established herself as a prominent activist, advocating for a range of causes such as human rights, environmental preservation, and anti-war movements. In her article, Toni Morrison's novel "Beloved" addresses themes of social justice and human values within the context of historical trauma. It probably analyses Morrison's use of narrative techniques and symbolism to depict the impact of slavery on individuals and communities, while also highlighting the importance of remembering and confronting the past for healing and justice (1987). Toni Morrison's in contrast to Arundhati Roy are renowned for their exploration of activist themes in their works, but they approach these themes from distinct perspectives and cultural contexts. Despite their differences, both authors are deeply committed to social justice and use their writing to shed light on systemic injustices and advocate for change. Arundhati Roy is an Indian author, activist, and public intellectual. Apart from her work as a novelist, Roy is also known for her activism and political commentary. She has been a vocal critic of globalization, neoliberalism, environmental degradation, and social injustices in India and around the world.

In the book, *The Far Field* author Madhuri Vijay uses an unreliable narrator to explore the complexities of identity, commitment, and power. In one specific situation, Shalini's storytelling shifts between idolizing Bashir as a romantic character and vilifying him as a potential danger. Her conflicting feelings and unclear reasons blend reality and fiction making it hard for readers to trust her story. As Shalini digs deeper into her bond with Bashir and gets caught in Kashmir's political and social complications, her untrustworthy narration highlights how truth can be subjective individual viewpoints that may limit our understanding of the world. Madhuri Vijay examines identity intricacies repercussions of unchecked advantages and how power dynamics influence personal connections and outlooks 'narrator's questionable reliability adds depth to the story and prompts the reader to scrutinize the character's motivations and loyalties. One of Madhuri Vijay's innovative techniques is the use of Vijay also writes in a lyrical and evocative way that paints a vivid picture of the mountain capes of Kashmir and explores the internal landscape of her protagonist, Shalini. She captures readers with the lushness and profundity of her writing. In this novel, Vijay uses sensory and vivid descriptive prose

to detail her novel's setting. The story is further framed by Vijay's reflective narrative style, as it is told in retrospect from Shalini's perspective.

One compelling reason for including both Vietnamese and Indian texts in our article on activism could be to highlight the diverse perspectives and experiences within the broader Asian community. By incorporating texts from different cultural backgrounds, you're not only enriching the discussion on activism but also acknowledging the multiplicity of voices and struggles within the Asian diaspora. This approach underscores the importance of intersectionality and solidarity among various marginalized groups in the fight for social justice.

The *Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen skillfully blends themes of loyalty, identity, and the lingering impacts of war. Set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War, the novel revolves around a disturbed protagonist who battles his dual identities as a communist sympathizer and a covert spy, evoking the moral ambiguities delves into in Graham Greene's "The Quiet American". Through his covert acts, the story explores the complexities of allegiance, shedding light on the blurry lines that separate devotion to one's country, philosophy, and interpersonal relationships. The story has authenticity and emotional depth that defy conventional war narratives and offer a fresh perspective on Vietnamese life on both sides of the conflict because of Viet Thanh Nguyen's personal experiences as a refugee from Vietnam. The *Sympathizer* examines how colonialism continues to impact Vietnamese society and culture by examining postcolonial themes and criticizing Western meddling. It provides an interesting and thought-provoking look at the human cost of war and the struggle for justice. In *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen (Nguyen, Year of Publication), activism manifests itself in a variety of ways, mirroring the protagonist's journey as well as the greater context of the Vietnam War. While attending school in the US, the main character takes part in anti-war protests and joins forces with those who oppose US military engagement, expressing his growing dissatisfaction with the conflict. Vietnamese society is home to underground resistance activities against the communist regime that shed light on the ongoing struggle for political freedom and human rights. The book also examines how activism affected how the public perceived the conflict and public opinion, illuminating the power dynamics at play when facts and narratives are twisted. The *Sympathizer* offers a sophisticated portrayal of activism in the face of war and injustice through both coordinated opposition and individual actions of protest.

The essay *What Is Literary Activism?* by Amy King investigates the concept of literary activism and its elements. King highlights the value of varied voices and arguments in writing while reflecting on her own experience as a literary activist. She also talks about the necessity of social change in the publishing sector and the importance of literature in activism. The essay offers perspectives on literary activism from a variety of writers and editors, giving the topic an extensive perspective. It also discusses how important it is to include marginalized voices and viewpoints in literature. The article emphasizes the value of literary activism in fostering social change and expanding the literary canon and argues for the inclusion of new voices and innovative ideas in literature.

Themes of resistance, resiliency, and the pursuit of justice are prevalent in indigenous literature. Indigenous authors use narrative as a vehicle for activism, dispelling myths, calling attention to historical injustices, and promoting the rights of Indigenous communities. Works like Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony*, Sherman Alexie's *The True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* and *The Lowland* by Jhumpa Lahiri discuss systematic oppression, cultural assimilation, and the significance of regaining Indigenous identity.

This research paper examines the intersection of activism, human values, and Indigenous literature by analysing Amitav Ghosh's *Sea of Poppies*, Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Lowland*, Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer*, Madhuri Vijay's *The Far Field*. It aims to investigate how literature can be an effective medium for expressing and advancing social justice causes that are rooted in Indigenous perspectives. The complex relationships that exist between human values, Indigenous literature, and activism, emphasise the significant influence that these relationships have on one another. Also, explore how Indigenous literature can be an effective tool for activism, human values promotion, and developing a deeper understanding of Indigenous views through an interdisciplinary lens. This study seeks to further the continuing discussion about social justice, cultural preservation, and the value of varied narratives in creating a more inclusive society by analysing significant literary works. Indigenous literature represents human values and protects cultural identities, making it a powerful force in activism. Indigenous authors' stories provide an influential partner for activism based on the pursuit of social, political, and cultural change.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Betty Wilson in her article "Literature and Activism, Literature as Activism: Case Studies from Caribbean Women's Writing in French" analyzes how literature and activism establish a connection, with a particular emphasis on the writings of four Caribbean women authors: Marie Chauvet, Edwidge Danticat, Gisèle Pineau, and Yanick Lahens. The study explores how these authors utilize their writing as a platform for activism to raise social and political concerns in the Caribbean. The article addresses how these writers use their writing to attract attention to a range of social issues, including political oppression, cultural identity, gender inequity, and other types of societal obstacles. It examines how literature turns into an effective instrument for these authors to interact with and criticize the sociopolitical environment, allowing voiceless-marginalized voices to speak not just in the Caribbean islands but in all countries that were formerly a part of the British Empire.

*Sea of Poppies* is renowned for its accurate portrayal of historical events, especially the British and Chinese Opium Wars. The work gives readers an in-depth understanding of the social, political, and economic climate of the era while also shedding light on the effects of the opium trade and colonialism on Chinese and Indian societies. A wide ensemble of characters from different cultural backgrounds, including Indians, Chinese, Americans, and Europeans, are masterfully brought together by Ghosh. Through its exploration of identity issues, the novel sheds light on how people manage their cultural legacy in the face of increasing globalization and colonial control.

The study of identity, both personal and collective, in the context of cultural diversity, is one of the Sea of Poppies' main subjects. While navigating the intricate social structures characters such as Zachary Reid and Deeti struggle with issues of identity. The story explores how people negotiate their identities under the constraints of societal expectations, showing the conflict between various cultural norms. The narrative opens with Deeti, a religious woman who is a devoted mother and an honest housewife. Sadly, Deeti discovers that on her wedding night, her mother-in-law drugged her with opium so that her brother-in-law could rape her and complete the marriage instead of her impotent husband Hukam Singh who is a disabled labourer at the Ghazipur Opium Factory. Her brother-in-law is the biological father of Deeti's daughter Kabutri. Kabutri is sent to live with relatives by Deeti following the death of her husband. The untouchable caste ox man from the neighbouring village, Kalua, saves Deeti from possible death when she is forced to accept the sati ritual as her last option due to threats of future rapes by her brother-in-law. The villagers from the upper caste find this unacceptable. Deeti and Kalua take up a journey as indentured labourers on the Ibis to flee their in-laws.

Published in the Studies in American Indian Literatures journal in 2007, Lisa J. Udel's work "Revising Strategies: The Intersection of Literature and Activism in Contemporary Native Women's Writing", specifically discusses the literary works of Native American authors Winona LaDuke, Elizabeth Cook-Lynn, and Linda Hogan. Udel's focus is on the authors' attempts to encourage decolonization through their works to create an informed readership and active class. By raising readers' awareness and comprehension of the topics covered in the literature, the main goal is to enable them to take an active role in decolonization activities. Udel argues that Indigenous writers, such as Amitav Ghosh and Anuk Arudpragasam, delve into the issues of decolonization, activism, Human relations women's empowerment in society through their writing.

The Myra Mendible article "Literature as Activism: Ninotchka Rosca's Political Aesthetic" delves into how the political advocacy of local Filipino writers such as Ninotchka Rosca influences her artistic decisions, providing a distinctive viewpoint on the complex interplay between literature and activism. It implies that Rosca's political convictions are entwined with her literary career, offering a fascinating glimpse into her political aesthetic and how it shapes her work. The article by Mendible suggests that post-colonial writers across the world like Amitav Ghosh and Ninotchka Rosca are expressing themselves through Activist literature. It is their way of writing back to the colonial structures they had been so long trapped within. "No Place for Self-Pity, No Room for Fear by Toni Morrison, Morrison suggested Artists' Role: Morrison stressed that artists cannot choose to be mute during times of fear. Relevance of Art: She recognized the suffering of the world but emphasized the need to resist giving in to its evil and Inspirational Message: Morrison's comment echoes the belief that art is essential to the healing of civilizations, encouraging artists to carry on with their work even in the face of hardship.

Amitav Ghosh's Sea of Poppies and Jhumpa Lahiri's The Lowland can both be read as examples of what King calls "literary activism"—socially conscious literature that illuminates underrepresented histories and viewpoints (King, 2022). As Wilson explains, how literature turns into an effective instrument for these authors to interact with and criticize the socio-political environment Sea of Poppies paints a complicated

picture of the many effects of British imperial policies in India in the 1830s, ranging from the rapacious opium trade to the inhumane treatment of indentured workers (Wilson, 2020). Similar to what Udel investigates regarding Native American women's literature, *The Lowland* reveals the human costs of political dissent through the account of Udayan's radicalization while focusing on the underappreciated history of the Naxalite movement in 1960s Calcutta (Udel, 2007)

Both novels do more than just portray dark pasts; they force readers to ponder how historical injustices continue to affect us now—what Morrison refers to as "the past's presence" (Morrison, 2022). Politically charged literature, according to Mendible, holds an "emancipatory promise" based on imagining more just futures (Mendible, 2014). Despite the tragic themes present in both works' ends due to the characters' traumatic pasts, redemption can be found in the tenacity of succeeding generations in the face of loss. Both novels end with imagery that conveys hope: in *The Lowland*, Subhash embraces his infant daughter as a symbol of renewal; in *Sea of Poppies*, the Ibis ship sets out on a fresh journey. Because of this, these works of literature serve as prime examples of how literary activism can both memorialize the suppressed history of oppression and emancipate readers by showing that social reform is still achievable even in the face of injustice. *The Lowland*: Subhash's participation in this campaign demonstrates his dedication to social justice and willingness to overcome systematic inequities in society. Through his activism, he hopes to effect change and improve the lives of the disadvantaged and downtrodden. However, as the narrative unfolds, Subhash's activism becomes more personal as he confronts the consequences of his acts and the influence they have on his relationships and family. The novel delves into the complexity of activism, including its moral difficulties and sacrifices, which add depth to Subhash's character and the story's themes.

*The Paper Memory, Insidious Trauma, and Refugee Crisis in Viet Thanh Nguyen's The Sympathizer* by Rashi Shrivastava, Avishek Parui, Merin Simi Raj The article argues the case that refugee crises involve complex and nuanced kinds of trauma that are frequently disregarded in mainstream trauma studies, which mostly draw on Western experiences and models. Through a framework of memory studies, the study provides a new reading of Viet Thanh Nguyen's novel *The Sympathizer* by looking at the historical setting of the American-Vietnam War and its diasporic aftermath. It investigates how the story intersects with spectrality, nostalgia, and symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder. The essay argues that trauma is an enduring and experiential phenomenon with political roots, especially in oppressed communities, and that fiction offers a special lens through which to view and relate to these nuanced experiences.

Quick & Easy Book Reviews in their blog *Unveiling Layers of Identity and Betrayal in The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer* talks about how The Pulitzer Prize-winning book *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen deftly examines identity, allegiance, and the intricacies of human nature in the context of the Vietnam War and its aftermath. The story explores the protagonist's difficulties and the clash of cultures through the perspective of an anonymous half-French, half-Vietnamese communist spy, acting as a metaphor for fragmented Vietnam itself. The protagonist, having grown up in two different worlds yet feeling cut off from both, is a living example of the widespread effects

of colonialism and conflict on personal identity. Introspective prose full of metaphors and symbolism, the novel offers a profound analysis of the human condition as it dwells on memory, remorse, and the lasting effects of the war. It is structured as a confession to an enigmatic commandant in post-war America.

Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer* presents human activism as seen through the prism of political disagreement and resistance against injustice. The main character, a Vietnamese communist double agent residing in the US, takes part in clandestine activity to overthrow repressive regimes in both the US and Vietnam. To promote social justice and the emancipation of the underprivileged, he engages in a variety of acts of sabotage, espionage, and subversion. To illustrate the extent people will go to to combat injustice, the protagonist, for instance, sets up covert networks to transport resources and intelligence to the Vietnamese communist forces. In addition, as the protagonist battles his conflicting loyalties and tries to make sense of the political beliefs of his era, the book delves into questions of identity and belonging.

Kukku Xavier in his article *The Missing Person in a Story about Kashmir: A Reading of Madhuri Vijay's The Far Field* examines the trope of the 'missing person' in the literature about Kashmir and argues, by taking Madhuri Vijay's *The Far Field* (2019) as an example, how the trope allows the examination of a multi-layered history of Violence. The article problematizes the idea of visibility and invisibility of the Missing /abducted /hidden underground people during conflict and suggests that these figures can be read as metaphors for personal and collective trauma and loss. By triangulating three coordinates in the Kashmiri context – violence, trauma, and invisibility – the essay argues that a missing person can be emblematic of memories of trauma, the negation of humanity, violation of the body, and public complicity in institutional violence. By foregrounding Shalini's journey to recover the missing people, the novel underpins the "rot remains" of a society afflicted with violence and state apathy. *Reading Sub Nations in Fiction: Locating Bodies, Resistance and History in The Far Field* by Esther Daimari 1 Tezpur University examines the various ways in which subnations are manifested in fiction. The political, social, economic, cultural and personal substations have their own semantics of expression that require an unlearning of the dominant modes of reading resistance. The paper also views the subject-citizen of these subnations as subalterns in the Gramscian sense and examines the ways that their agency has often been subsumed by single-celled ideologies. It is posited that there is a need to step outside the prescribed imaginaries of power and look at the networks that run beneath the surface. The structures of solidarity, resistance and intense knowledge and weight of history become apparent at this point. The paper contextualises Madhuri Vijay's novel, *The Far Field* as it seeks to discuss these avenues of narratives.

Madhuri Vijay's *The Far Field* is another book that demonstrates the evolving trends in literary activism. Using literature as a vehicle for social change and advocacy is known as literary activism, as demonstrated by several works. Authors like Vijay use narratives to question social norms, highlight underrepresented perspectives, and get readers to consider their attitudes and behaviours. The protagonist travels to the troubled region of Kashmir to solve the mystery surrounding her mother's background. The book tackles the intricacies of the Kashmir war and its effects on people and communities via her experiences and interactions with different characters. Vijay skilfully weaves together themes of personal and national identity, highlighting the



tension between belonging and alienation. Shalini's journey to Kashmir serves as a metaphor for her search for belonging and meaning in a world marked by displacement and fragmentation. Through her interactions with various characters, including the mysterious Bashir Ahmed and a vulnerable Rohingya refugee, she confronts uncomfortable truths about privilege and power dynamics. Vijay deftly navigates the complex political and cultural landscape of the region, refusing to simplify the conflict into simple binaries of good and evil. Instead, it presents a nuanced portrayal of the human costs of violence and how it shapes individual lives. At its core, "Far Field" is a deeply introspective novel that delves into the complexities of memory, grief, and the search for redemption.

Examining Counter Discursive in Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* by Nabeel Ahmed Minhas. This research aimed at exploring the linguistic significance of Arundhati Roy's discourse and its role in rejecting the socially established norms and practices in her novel *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*. It examined how words can be used powerfully to undermine normative social notions and institutions. It reveals that Roy uses persuasive language at lexical and sentential levels to make deprived people including transgenders, religious minorities like Dalits and Muslims, and Kashmiris speak up for their social and political rights. Critical Discourse Analysis is used to analyse the text as it is an appropriate method to explore the use of a particular language to create a discourse against socially established discourses.

Shruti Das discusses that in the novel *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* (2017) Arundhati Roy, along with other stories, narrates the trauma of Anjum, a transgender, who was born a male, which forms one of the central threads of the narrative. Anjum, born Aftab, subsequently leaves her home to live with nine other transgenders who are 'othered' by the gaze and form a world of their own in a secluded, closely guarded and dilapidated home, the "Khwabgah" or "Palace of Dreams," in the lap of sophisticated New Delhi. Roy raises certain critical questions in this novel. One of them hitherto unexplored is the cultural trauma experienced by transgender individuals and the people associated with them. This paper attempts to bring to focus and analyse, with the tools of psychoanalysis, the effects of trauma in the construction of identity, specifically, concerning the violated transgender psyche and their isolation in *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, with a special focus on Anjum as a case in point, so that the readers can connect, understand and sympathize the homonormative individuals. This study draws on various theories of trauma like Julia Kristeva's theory of abjection and Lacan's theory of gaze in the article *Trauma and Transgender Space in Arundhati Roy's The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* by Shruti Das.

Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* the unique analysis of transforming analysis patterns: Roy makes use of a variety of narration strategies and points of view as well as story designs to highlight the intricacy coupled with the interdependence of human experiences. The guide includes people from several generations each with their very own unique voice as well as point of view. By providing these numerous tales Roy concerns traditional undertones of direct narration together with motivating visitors to take part much more proactively and dynamically with the message. Anjum a transgender girl who stays in a Delhi burial ground and also opens up a guesthouse for various other marginalised

individuals is among the crucial personalities in the guide. Concerns of marginalization as well as sex identification in Indian culture are analysed in Anjum's tale. Tilo a lady who participates in political activism as well as experiences problems in her individual as well as expert partnerships, is an additional crucial personality. The author shows Tilo being intolerant of religion through the conservative Hindu nationalists who call her anti-national and anti-Hindu because she has different political views, as well as the dispute in Kashmir. The Kashmir conflict is about India and Pakistan fighting over Kashmir territory. Their lives in the story are greatly influenced by the political tensions and violent actions which arise from this territorial dispute. Musa for example, as a separatist Kashmiri struggling against Indian power feels uncertainty around his own identity as well as allegiance).

Roy creates a poetic, abundant design that includes complex personality growth as well as evocative summaries. She skilfully incorporates numerous stories plus points of views to produce a tapestry of interwoven lives that catches the comparisons together with a variety of modern India. Roy takes a look at the details of identification, coming from, as well as the search of suggesting a culture going through quick adjustment utilizing the stories of her personalities

## **CONCLUSION**

Examining the themes of activism, human values, and indigenous literature in Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer*, Madhuri Vijay's *The Far Field*, *The Lowland* by Jhumpa Lahiri, and *Sea of Poppies* by Amitav Ghosh, it is clear that these works provide deep insights into the complexity of identity, cultural heritage, and societal change. Each author navigates the complex fabric of the human condition through the eyes of various characters and situations, illuminating the difficulties marginalized communities confront, the resiliency of the human spirit, and the strength of compassion and empathy.

The novel *Sea of Poppies* by Ghosh transports readers to colonial India, presenting the exploitation of indigenous peoples and the legacy of imperialism in graphic detail. Ghosh celebrates the fortitude and resiliency of those who resist while simultaneously presenting the reader with the grim reality of persecution via vivid imagery and painstaking research. Similar to this, Lahiri's *The Lowland* explores human values and action within the framework of the immigrant experience, paying particular attention to the connections between identity, family, and political upheaval. Lahiri emphasizes the value of empathy and understanding in creating meaningful connections across cultural boundaries as characters negotiate the intricacies of their dual cultural identities.

Through the perspective of indigenous experiences, these three works address important human concerns. By shedding attention on the mistreatment and abuse experienced by indentured labourers in colonial India, Ghosh's *Sea of Poppies* gives voice to individuals whose histories have been suppressed throughout time. The difficult fight for fundamental human rights and dignity in the face of strong hegemonic forces is symbolized by the protagonist's voyage on the *Ibis*. *The Lowland* by Lahiri delves into the generational effects on a single family as well as the ideological tensions that underpinned the Naxalite communist rebellion in

West Bengal. Lahiri illustrates the nuanced causes of activism as well as its sad human costs by presenting both points of view.

Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* weaves together multiple narrative threads and perspectives, creating a rich and complex story. The study in *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* by Arundhati Roy and *The Far Field* by Madhuri Vijay examines how literary campaigning has changed over the years as well as how readers have adapted new methods to literary work analysis and engagement. It aims to show how literary advocacy has evolved from more traditional avenues such as public readings, online reviews, and protests to modern methods like e-advocacy and social media campaigns. Another objective is to find out how customers have embraced innovative ways of reading and evaluating texts such as interactive e-books, book clubs, online discussion forums, and multimedia platforms. The theme seeks to demonstrate the transformative power of literature as a tool for social change and the way readers actively construct the meaning and impact of texts through the examination of these shifting trends and new approaches. Two stories that highlight transforming patterns plus avant-garde analysis methods are *The Far Field* by Madhuri Vijay and *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* by Arundhati Roy. Both stories supply fresh viewpoints on detailed social and political subjects while likewise testing traditional story types. Authors can doubt standards and also generate beliefs via items such as *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* as well as *The Far Field* which motivate visitors to believe seriously concerning the globe along with their very own component in producing a far better future. In both novels, the authors use the power of storytelling to inspire empathy, understanding, and critical thinking in readers. Offering glimpses of social and political realities, complex plots, and glimpses of hope and possibility, these books encourage readers to consider their role in shaping a better future and actively pursue justice, equality, and compassion.

The epilogue of Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer* completes the protagonist's journey as he faces the moral dilemma of his double agent job and the fallout from his acts. In the end, he is demoralized by the reality of revolution and the human cost of ideological warfare, despite his best attempts to negotiate the perilous political terrain. Readers are left to reflect on the ongoing legacy of resistance in the face of oppression by the novel's ending, which serves as a sobering reminder of the difficulties of activism and the sacrifices it frequently requires. Nguyen guides readers across the perilous terrain of post-war Vietnam via the eyes of a conflicted protagonist, providing a complex portrait of people torn between opposing beliefs and allegiances. In addition to providing insight into the historical background of the Vietnam War, the novel's well-developed characters and complex storylines also speak to more general themes of power, treachery, and the human condition. With its gripping story and provocative observations.

**WORK CITED**

Udel, Lisa. "Revising Strategies", *The Intersection of Literature and Activism in Contemporary Native Women's Writing*, *Studies in American Indian Literatures*, Volume 19, Number 2, Summer 2007, pp. 62-82.

Wilson, Betty. "Literature and Activism, Literature as Activism", *Caribbean Quarterly*, 66:3, 2020, 405-424.

Mendible, Myra. "Literature as activism: Ninotchka Rosca's political aesthetic", *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, Florida Gulf Coast University, USA, 2012, 50:3, 354-367.

King, Amy. "What Is Literary Activism?", 2015.

Morrison, Toni. "No Place for Self-Pity, No Room for Fear" *Times of Dread*, *Artists Must Never Choose to Remain Silent*, *The Nation*, 23 March 2015.

Ghosh, Amitav. *Sea of Poppies*. London: John Murray, 2008.

Lahiri, Jhumpa. *The Lowland: A Novel*. First edition. New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 2013.

Nguyen, Viet Thanh. *The Sympathizer*. Grove Press, 7 April 2015

Shrivastava Rashi, Parui Avishek, Raj Simi Merin. "Memory, Insidious trauma, and Refugee crisis in Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer* (2015)" *Rupkatha Journal on Interdisciplinary Studies In Humanities*. Volume 15, Number 3, 2023.

"Unveiling Layers of Identity and Betrayal in "The Sympathizer" by Viet Thanh Nguyen" *Medium*. Quick & Easy Book Reviews. Nov 16, 2023.

Xavier, Kukku. "The Missing Person in a Story about Kashmir: A Reading of Madhuri Vijay's *The Far Field*." *Asiatic*, Volume 10, December 2023 Number 2.

Daimari, Esther. "Reading Subnations in Fiction: Locating Bodies, Resistance, and History in *The Far Field*." *IIS Univ.J.A.* Vol.11 (1), 24-37 (2022).

Minhas, Nabeel Ahmed. "Examining Counter Discursivity in Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*." *Pakistan Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*. Volume 10, Number 2, 2022, Pages 491–502.

Das, Shruti. "Trauma and Transgender Space in Arundhati Roy's *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*." *University of Bucharest Review* Vol. IX/2019, no. 2 (new series).

Roy, Arundhati. *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*. Knopf, 2017.

Vijay, Madhuri. *The Far Field*. Grove Press, 2019.