



# KIRAN DESAI'S THE INHERITANCE OF LOSS

## A Study In Post Colonial Trauma

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### **Abstract:-**

The novel of Kiran Desai, the Inheritance of loss is set after the colonial period ended, when India became free from the British rule. But despite the independence of the country, there was a race going on India due to which the common people were deprived of any kind of comfort. This colonialism is seen as a conflict between different cultures. It is clearly evident that this novel is based on India, Britain, United States America. The theme of impact of globalization, migration, displacement, alienation, identity and historical power, economic condition, inequality. The reality of poverty and economic inequality have been harshly depicted and the struggle of communities has also been influenced with humour. The novel portrays the equation of cultural and mixed identify while also acknowledge the conflict and misunderstanding that cultural different creates. The Gorkha land movement end the ethnic struggle for a separate country. The struggle for identify alienation, displacement, hybridity, belonging and social justice.

### **Key Words-**

Acknowledge, misunderstanding, portrays, belonging  
humour, alienation, identity, displacement,

### **Introduction and detailed**

The novel of Kiran Desai, The Inheritance of Loss is set after the colonial period ended, when India become free from the British rule, but despite the Independence of the country, there was a race going on India due to which the

common people were deprived of any kind of comfort. They were not feeling any kind of Independence. The colonialism is seen as a conflict between different cultures which is revealed by the experience gained by the characters of the Inheritance of Loss novel.

The Psychological and emotional impacts which where explored are very bad. It is clearly evident that this novel is based on India, Britain and United states America in which focuses on the theme of impact of globalization, migration, displacement alienation, identity and historical power, structure, in which there is a race of power and imbalance and social and inequality. The reality of poverty and economic inequality have been harshly depicted and the struggle of communities has also been influenced with humour. The characters of the novel are shown dealing with various types of losses.

### **Brief description of the main characters of this novel.**

Judge (Jemu Bhai Patel) the judge who is a Cambridge educated Indian, who is now retired, who in retirement lives with grand daughter in Kalimpong at near Himalayas. He keeps sleeping about his past. his relationship with his wife and his grand daughter. The judge is an intelligent sensitive educated man who is fully capable of thinking and understanding about his past and present life. Sai-Sai is an orphaned young girl and lives with her grand father judges in Kalimpong. She is serious and sensitive girl and who loves her education and learning new thing about her life Sai's father and mother died in accident leaving her alone, but she is happy

with her grand father. Biju –Biju is the son of cook, is simple and kind person and is a character experiencing, the difficulties of being an illegal immigrant in the united states America. He is working in th New york city.

Other important characters Nimi Judge's wife who is an important part of his life and his career. Lola is the judge's neighbour and journalist. Pixi- She is a Lola's daughter, who is a reporter. These include material wealth property cultural identity and sense of belonging that is inherited from previous generations. It examines colonialism and its consequences shape individuals and communities leading to psychological and social feeling of displacement, isolation and servitude.

The novel highlights the impact of the Gorkha rebellion in Kalimpong and throws light on political and social unrest. It highlights the feeling of loss and displacement, globalization and migration are such a complex process and clearly depict their impact on individuals and society. It has left a deep impact especially on those people, who are burdened with poverty and look for a good opportunities to end their poverty due to which they migrate to other countries illegally without any education and legal document, and keep wandering here and there in search of a good job, but he is not able to succeed in that completely. It clearly depicts the challenges faced by immigrants in the United States where cultural identity economic inequality are considered important. The novel highlights the struggle of such people to maintain their cultural identity. The novel describes the people who are found to be grappling with this problem which is completely affected by the changing social and political landscape due to globalization. The characters grapple with the questions of their identity. The struggle to establish inequality of their inherited cultural values with the realities of the present circumstance in the context of cultural displacement creates a sense of fragmentation. The novel suggest that identity is not static but a simple and evolving concept that is preserved by

individual experience and historical context and social interaction. Colonialism and it legacies examines the lasting impact of British colonialism on Indian Society and culture.

The retired judge magistrate and his grand daughter represent different generations, who are haunted by memories of the British rule. This connected to his concept of life. The novelist emphasizes the loss of cultural identity and the struggle to find a new identity in a colonial world globalization and Diaspora the novel also examines the experience of the Diaspora and particularly Biju, the son of cook, which can be called the problem of globalization and diaspora. Biju searches for a good job in the United states America. The concept of diaspora is highlighted through the experience of characters travelling between India, Britain and America (U.S.A) which clearly highlights the complexities of displacement. The novel portrays the equation of cultural and mixed identity while also acknowledge the conflict and misunderstanding that cultural difference creates. The Gorkhaland movement and the ethnic struggle for a separate country or state have made the complexity of cultural identity and political identity in the colonial context all the more clear. The anxiety of power and the elevation of humour highlights all the elements under which the power structures, both historical and contemporary leads to humour for some community and individual in this novel, economic inequality are experienced in various forms including racial discrimination and political exclusion and the challenges of achieving social justice after colonialism are critiqued conflict and clash between cultures are all important aspect of displacement which create a feeling of confusion, separation and conflict in the life of the Indians. The socio-political effect of displacement due to the history of immigration and political upheaval have been shown. This types of displacement has a negative effect on the life of the Indians and their socio economic conditions under the influence of immigration the face of fear and pain, goes through a complex process. Although displacement has had a negative effect. The feeling of hope and flexibility have also been shown. Economist explains society through imperialist power and the inhabited region of India started with some ideology. Despite the country being independence. The Indians have to bear the brunt of the shortage of work and unemployment. There is no way of doing any kind of work in the country.

In this novel, a woman character is sexually abused when she requests the police to release her drunk and husband saying that he is innocent, the police treats her bad behaviour. Indians do not get any kind of facility from the Indian government during post-colonial period. The post-colonialism is revealed by Bhabha's theory work analysis of displacement, alienation and creative identity. The characters face the complexities of post-colonial identity and cultural changes. In this novel there are economic inequalities and the process of globalization. It affects the weak people of India. They have to struggle due to their pitiable economic condition. The moment of human values is depicted in the post-colonial period. Both characters Biju and Sai are aware of their human values but they face movement of their values.

Thus, it can be said that social justice has to be considered as the result of economic inequalities.

The Inheritance of Loss is a novel that delves deeply into the theme of post-colonialism. Displacement, loss of identity, alienation and legacy. It inspires us to face them through the main characters of this novel. Sai and Biju's displacement highlights the conflict cultures and nationhood. In the novel, the Inheritance of Loss legacy does not just mean material possessions. It also represents social and political values that go beyond the cultural and national conflict in his education and Biju faces discrimination in that as a migrant.

Thus, it is proved the novel The Inheritance of Loss is a post-colonial novel.

**Finally**, the Inheritance of Loss is a powerful and moving post-colonial novel that explores the complex psychological and emotional consequences of historical and contemporary factors on individual communities through an exploration of the diversity of characters and global migration. The novel presents a comprehensive and critical picture of the situation of woman in a rapidly changing world. It also offers a powerful exploration of the human values of globalization in post-colonialism highlighting the impact of historical legacies on the individual lives and on-going struggle for identity, alienation, displacement, hybridity, identity belonging and social justice.

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