

SUBALTERN PERSPECTIVES IN INDIAN CONTEXT



Critical Responses

Dipak Giri



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Epiphany at the Heart of Silence: Amitav Ghosh's Rediscovery of the Subaltern Voice

Aswathy Mohan

Amitav Ghosh is acclaimed as one of the most widely recognized novelists in the Indian Diaspora mainly for establishing many benchmarks of his own. His novels have won acclaim both in India and abroad for their realistic depiction of the problems of subalterns. The voices of the subaltern, their struggle and sacrifices have a significant presence in Ghosh's novels. By means of the subaltern protagonists of his novels, Ghosh highlights the struggles and dilemmas of the downtrodden as well as encounters the postcolonial intelligentsia on the question of the subaltern's ability to speak. Most of his novels revolve around the hitherto unrecorded suppressed aspirations of those silent sufferers. In addressing the challenges the subaltern face in recovering and representing themselves in stories, Ghosh tries to coalesce the encumbrances and the issues that gag them.

The Subaltern Concept

The word subaltern comes from the word 'subalternus' and it is the combination of two words 'Sub' meaning 'under' & 'alternus' meaning 'every other, one after the other'. Subalterns are those people or groups who are located on the fringes of the hegemonic

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Dipak Giri, author, editor, from Cooch Behar, a district town within the jurisdiction of state West Bengal, India, is an acclaimed name in the field of academic write-up. Though professionally he is a teacher in government higher secondary school (Katamari High School, Cooch Behar, West Bengal, India, PIN- 736157), he is passionately a hardcore researcher on Indian English Literature, Subaltern Studies, Queer Studies, Gender and Feminism. He currently holds the position of Editor-in-Chief in a non-profitable international journal "Creative Flight" (ISSN 2582-6158). His scholarly books and articles have been published in both national and international books and journals of repute. Prior to joining as a school teacher, he worked in several colleges near his local town Cooch Behar as a Part Time Lecturer, a Guest Lecturer and a Visiting Lecturer. They are Cooch Behar College, T. P. M. Mahavidyalaya, Dewanhat College and Vivekananda College. Now he has been assigned with many academic and research activities. He is pursuing his Ph. D. from Raiganj University, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal, India. Besides he is acting his role of reviewer in some national and international journals of repute. He is also working as Academic Counsellor in Netaji Subhas Open University, Cooch Behar College Study Centre, Cooch Behar, West Bengal, India. The book *Subaltern Perspectives in Indian Context: Critical Responses* is his fourteenth edited book. One can visit him at <https://www.dipakgiri.com>

The anthology *Subaltern Perspectives in Indian Context: Critical Responses* is a volume of twenty two well explored research articles and an interview taken with famous Dalit author Sharankumar Limbale. The book tries to touch almost all subaltern groups like workers, peasants and women. Authors have applied their well-sharpened insights to delve into common challenges faced by these derogated and devalued class of people. As a whole, the book may serve as a storehouse of materials for students, scholars and researchers alike.

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