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**DIPAK GIRI'S INDIAN WOMEN NOVELISTS IN ENGLISH: ART AND VISION: A
REVIEW
(A Book Review By)**

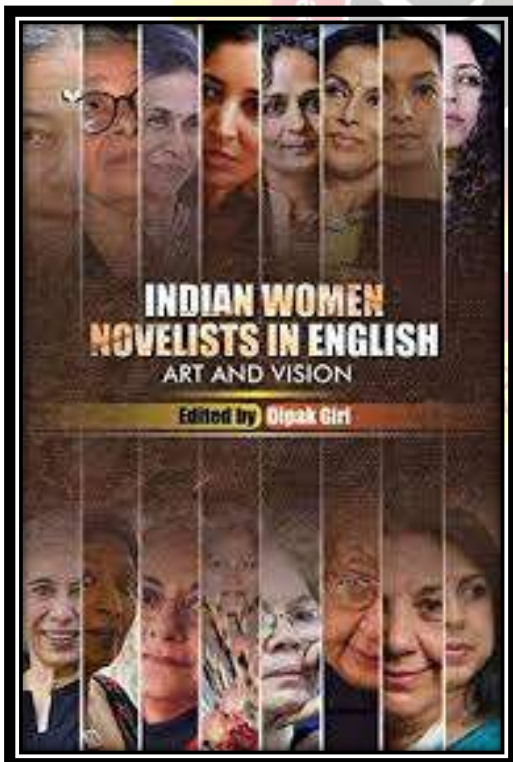
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About Reviewer:

Dr. Sapna Dogra is presently working as an Assistant Professor, Department of English, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government Degree College Sunni, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India. She has long been holding significant position in a number of literary journals. She is the Deputy Chief Editor of Muse India (ISSN: 0975-1815), the Editor of Creative Flight (ISSN: 2582-6158) and Academic Editor of Consortium (ISSN: 2583-0090) to name a few. She completed her BA and MA in English Literature from the University of Delhi. She obtained her M.Phil and Ph.D from Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her research interests include Folklore Studies, Translation Studies, Indian English Writing, Hindi Literature, Popular Literature, Gender Studies and Narratology. She can be reached at sapnadm@gmail.com.

About Book:



Title:

*Indian Women Novelists in
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Twenty-five research articles on contemporary Indian women novelists and their works, including those by Anita Desai, Shashi Deshpande, and others, are collected in the book *Indian Women Novelists in English: Art and Vision* edited by Dipak Giri. The variety of topics covered in this volume will sharpen readers' critical thinking skills and lead to a better understanding of contemporary Indian women novelists.

In 'Unfolding Existentialism in the Works of Jhumpa Lahiri' Ragini Kapoor explores existentialist themes in *The Interpreter of Maladies* and *Namesake*. Jhumpa Lahiri examines the subtleties of being torn between two distinct cultures critically in both of her works. Her characters are required to adapt to the social, religious, and ideological distinctions between two distinct cultural contexts. They go through existential angst, loneliness, and a sense that life has no purpose during this process.

In her paper 'From Resistance to Reconciliation in Shashi Deshpande's *That Long Silence*, Dr. S. Mahalakshmi exposes the state of affairs in Indian society, where women are subjected to ongoing physical and psychological abuse while being expected to subtly conform to patriarchal norms. Through Jaya's character, the novel emphasises the image of the middle class woman caught between tradition and modernity. In her paper 'Meena Alexander's *Manhattan Music* and *Nampally Road: A Discourse in Feminine Proximity*' Dr. T. Sasikanth Reddy critically analyses *Manhattan Music* and *Nampally Road*, two of Meena Alexander's novels, from a female perspective. She also delves into the topic of colonialism's cultural legacies.

In her analysis of Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*, Santanu Panda's paper 'Idea of Feminism and Untouchability: A Close Study of Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*' closely examines the concepts of untouchability and feminism. The paper's main discussion points are the injustice and violence experienced by Indian women in their social and domestic lives, as well as the deplorable state of untouchables in Indian society. Indrani Choudhury's paper "Unveiling the Myth of Independence in Mahasweta Devi's *Douloti, the Bountiful, The Hunt* and *Mother of 1084*" exposes the myth of independence in *Mother of 1084*, a well-known novel by Mahasweta Devi, as well as in a few of her short stories. The study demonstrates how, despite declarations to the contrary, political independence was entirely enjoyed by the bourgeoisie and upper classes, and did not benefit the impoverished, dispossessed, or other socially disempowered groups.

In her paper "Queer Relationships in the Novels of Shobhaa De: A Comparative Study between *Strange Obsession* and *Starry Nights*" Rabindra Sutradhar compares Shobhaa De's *Strange Obsession* and *Starry Nights* with regard to queer relationships and lesbianism between two women. It centres on the novelist De's rejection of forced heterosexuality and her suggestion that relationships between women are preferable to those between men as a revolt against societal norms that devalue women.

Other than these the book offers essays on Ruth Praver Jhabvala, Kamala Markandaya, Nayantara Sahgal and Anita Desai, like Kiran Desai, Jaishree Misra, Anees Jung, Anita Nair and Sarah Joseph, Anita Nair, Nayeema Mahjoor, Githa Hariharan, Chitra Banerjee Divyakaruni, Qurratulain Hyder, Manju Kapur and Rita Garg. The book presents a rich tapestry of critical perspectives on themes such as women's passionate search for independence and identity, anguish, alienation, self-discovery, patriarchy and feminist ideology. This book is an essential resource for scholars, students, and anyone interested in understanding contemporary Indian women novelists. By bringing together a diverse range of perspectives, it makes a valuable contribution to the



ongoing interest in women's writings from India. I highly recommend this book to literature enthusiasts and academics.

References

- Giri, Dipak, editor. *Indian Women Novelists in English: Art and Vision*. Vishwabharati Research Centre, 2018. Print.



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