



## ARAVIND ADIGA'S SOCIAL ASPECTS IN SELECT NOVELS – A STUDY

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### ABSTRACT

*In post-modern Indian English literature, Arvind Adiga is one the greatest novelists and authors who depict the root of Indian, known as Indian divers culture including multiculturalism, counter-culture, cross-culture, youth culture etc. In the selected fiction such as The White Tiger and Between the Assassination, Arvind Adiga has depicted the real pictures and the condition of socio-cultural aspects through various characters. These studies find out the socio-cultural and present the relevant to socio-cultural aspects in his selected fiction. The entire fiction focuses on the socio-cultural conflict and social status through humour and Irony. There is a very vast gap between rich and poor, the ruling class and the working class, suppressive and suppressed. Some poor and working-class people who are restless to change the society directly oppose the norms and shackles of suppressive. Often they are failed but sometimes they are succeeded so this whole process is known as a protest. Often the protagonist of the novel protests against social boundaries and taboos and the whole story revolves around his story. Arvind Adiga is famous for his Booker Prize-winning book The White Tiger. He has written two other novels and a short story collection Between the Assassinations. The study particularly focuses on Arvind Adiga's novels The White Tiger.*

**Keywords:** political tensions, suppressive, socio-cultural, social, multiculturalism, novel protests.

### INTRODUCTION

A normal guy's social life is the central theme of Arvind Adiga's works. By following the downfall of the underdog, Adiga reveals the inner workings of human nature and how they lead to acts of violence, theft, and deceit. He is able to examine the truth of existence via meticulously observing the social lives of ordinary people. More people focus on societal stigmas than on ways to fix them. It is very important to resolve community concerns and challenges, even when they may not get much attention. Ignoring the consequences of social faux pas will make it extremely difficult to confront and remedy these societal concerns. Bringing attention to these social problems is the first stage towards resolving them. Several wrongdoings in Indian society and democracy are highlighted in the book. This book expertly combines sociological research on India's poverty and suffering with comedic and sarcastic elements to draw attention to the religious, social, and political tensions in the nation. It is the goal of this article to provide a critical evaluation of the novel's political and social interventions. Balram Halwai, the protagonist of The White Tiger, goes through the whole range of human feeling, from hopelessness to suppression and all in between. The author exposes the reality behind the portrayal of India by concentrating on a negative perception about the country. India, in Adiga's opinion, is a culture characterized by widespread slavery and tyranny; a man's circumstances in India force him to rationalize his illegal acts due to the



lack of prospects for advancement for those born into poverty. India does, in fact, deal with most of the problems that Adiga brings out in this piece.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

**A. Arunraj [2021]** Famous Indo-Australian writer Aravind Adiga, a major contributor in Post-Colonial Indian English literature, beautifully depicts the rich cultural variety of India in his writings published in 2021 by He writes on the social and economic realities of society in his novels and short stories. He speaks to modern Indian society as well as the nation as a whole. Among Indian writers who have written in English, he stands head and shoulders above the others. In her first novel, *The White Tiger*, Vera Adiga explores the oppressed and their struggle for freedom. In his latter writings, he tackles a whole new range of topics. The struggle of India's poor against the country's long-established social order, the deceit of India's youth toward religion and society, and the situation of millions of starving Indians are among the recurring themes in *Between the Assassinations* by Adiga. Since Adiga draws her topics from real-life events, her novels are best described as pure social realist works.

**Atikur Rahman [2021]** is the referenced author. "*The White Tiger*" by Aravind Adiga deftly chronicles cultural interactions in India and wonderfully depicts them throughout all segments of Indian society. As Adiga astutely demonstrates via examples of cultural interactions inside India, our nation's diversity is one of its greatest assets. Because our nation is home to people from so many different cultural backgrounds, there is a large amount of cross-cultural conversation and understanding that takes place here. India has a long history of cultural problems that have kept the country from realizing its economic potential. In addition, a large part of India has been overlooked throughout this process, which has only served to heighten tensions between the educated elite and the common people. Readers who give the book their full attention will likely have numerous questions about the dynamics between the novel's "haves" and "have-nots." Our society's cultural homogeneity is exposed when diverse cultures interact. Many long-standing practices, including rituals and customs, have been analyzed from a modernist perspective.

**A.MATHAVI (2019)** After Chetan Bhagat and Aravind Adiga, claims that the two most successful Indian authors to write in English are (2019). Aravind Adiga and Chetan Bhagat both have a Marxist view of Indian society. Both writers bring attention to a problem in contemporary Indian culture. We looked at the cultural and economic components of the community. This study focuses on how Adiga and Bhagat's selected novels portray contemporary Indian culture.

**A. Gandhimathi [2018]** Despite his Indian birth, Aravind Adiga had his education in the US, UK, and Australia. In contemporary India, Adiga was a trailblazing writer. His experience as a journalist gave him a leg up when it came to depicting the country's darker sides in his works. Aravind Adiga's writings go into almost every aspect of human society. Adiga presents a candid picture of a growing India. With remarkable skill, Adiga illuminates the core problems that modern India faces. "*Last Man in Tower*," Adiga's third novel, delves



more into the real estate problems plaguing Mumbai. In her 2008 Man Booker Prize-winning novel "The White Tiger," Adiga portrays India as a cosmopolitan marvel with all her facets. Any and all suggestions for bettering India are dismissed and disregarded by the author.

**Anthony Raj [2017]** net worth at the end of the year was (\$ Culture is an integral part of being human. People adopt, cherish, and strive to hone the quality of resilience, which is more the result of facing and overcoming hardship than a consequence of having things easy. Even if this culture's worldwide reach has grown due to our forefathers' gradual but steady assimilation into our own, we still can't separate the two. When people in a community have a hard time accepting and even appreciating one another's differences, conflicts are likely to become worse. Disagreements and misunderstandings may stem from disparities in many other areas, such as religion, politics, culture, economics, race, and countless more. The same author expresses his or her views on the governing class's control over the common people in his or her work *Between the Assassinations*. Examining the many social power structures and their effects on people's daily lives is the goal of this endeavor.

### **Social class/classism**

From the dawn of humanity, there has been class strife and persistent socioeconomic inequity. Literature offers a window into society via its frequent and vivid depictions of the class struggle. This is likewise the case in the social and literary traditions of South Asia. Indian society, like many other South Asian countries, is highly stratified. This organizational hierarchy has been covered in the writings of several writers. Aravind Adiga of India and Mohsin Hamid of Pakistan are two among them. A perfect example of the current cultural and personal ideals is "The White Tiger" by Aravind Adiga. Toppling this social order requires the elimination of religious beliefs. In response to these ideas, a plethora of writers chronicled the class struggle and its abolition. Winner and finalist for the Man Booker Prize, Aravind Adiga's first novel *The White Tiger* was written in India.

### **Depiction of Indian Social Milieu in books of Arvind adiga**

Various issues relating to society's unseen members are extensively explored by its creator, Aravind Adiga. The majority of people see it often. Adiga uses the same somber tone to depict the longshots' terrible situation. He paints a picture of what a regular, low-class, law-abiding citizen might accomplish among the terrible bloodshed, murder, and looting. As part of his investigation, he delves into the branch of psychology that regulates the immoral behavior of all men in this scenario. In addition, his curiosity in Indian culture prompted him to seek out information on the Indians' everyday hardships. He felt his readers could benefit from hearing his perspective on the matter. In her many writings, Adiga covers a wide range of topics, including heroic acts, inspiring tales, and the unfaltering memoirs of everyday people. "I'm India's most dependable resident, I really have not seen inside a majority rule corner."

### **Upheavals of religious**



Some countries' cultural practices may be influenced by their religious beliefs. The practice of religion aids in the maturation of a person's relationship with God. India is a very religious nation, and its citizens put a high priority on their faith. In India, people follow a broad range of faiths. A spiritually committed and disciplined community has emerged as a consequence of these long-term practices. However, as a result of scientific and technical advancements, the country's religious organizations are quickly disappearing. Religious beliefs go deep in Indian culture. There is a great diversity of faiths practiced by Indians. The gods and beliefs of each individual are unique. For Hindus, rivers have great spiritual significance. Some people even worship rivers as gods.

### **Struggle of a Protagonist**

A common trope in many stories is that the protagonist is both the story's driving force and an exemplar of virtue. The day Balram is born, his social rank is determined by his caste, which means he will be stuck working in sugar production forever. Overcoming these cultural restrictions is a very challenging task. When compared to most Indians, Balram is dead set on leaving his home nation and "living like a man." However, the heroic qualities that heroes are expected to have are absent from him. When given the opportunity, Balram would prefer act "with near total dishonesty, lack of dedication, and insincerity" rather than adhere to his principles, in contrast to earlier heroes.

### **Representation of Rural Life in the White Tiger**

The Indian villages are fabricated, Balram exposes early on, using socialist and egalitarian feudal ideals and what is supposedly old wisdom as foundation. Here he refers to the classic writings of orientalists like O'Malley, Sir Henry Maine, and Sir Charles Metcalfe, who in their day saw India as a land of idyllic village republics, or "self-contained, inwardly turned communities consisting of cooperative communal agents." This viewpoint had already assumed an ideological form prior to the emergence of nationalists like Rabindranath Tagore. Rather, Balram paints a picture of Laxmangarh, a little Bihari town, where "anti-consumerism" is an illusion brought about by the four feudal lords who resided there and exacted astronomical fees for the area's natural and man-made riches. He says the tiny community is in "darkness" since there aren't enough good jobs in agriculture and other fields, therefore the landless residents have fled to Chicago in search of employment. If Balram's family couldn't pay their landlords, the men of his hamlet would go to larger cities like Dhanbad, Delhi, or Calcutta every year to find employment. Before the monsoons arrived, they would go back to their villages "leaner, darker, angrier, but with money in their pockets," having abandoned their family and all their possessions to permanently relocate.

### **Protests against Blind Obedience and Slavery**

The more Balram discovered about the corruption in Delhi, the more cynical and dishonest he became. The rich should foot the bill now that he knew they had deceived him. While escorting Mr. Ashok, he first had the thinking, "Listen, Mr. Ashok is donating to all these politicians in Delhi so they will exempt him from the tax he has to pay." Do you happen to



know who the taxpayer is, finally? It would take a normal American to pull off. Balram met his end at the hands of Mr. Ashok's brutal dominance and numb submission. Continue digging if you would want Balram to exit the Rooster Coop. Once he witnesses Ashok's unscrupulous dealings—including gambling, stealing, and buying politicians—he makes up his mind to steal and murder. The red bag containing 700,000 rupees will be accessible to him after Adiga has entered his cranium.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Review of Aravind Adiga's The White Tiger Historical Context of The White Tiger**

While Balram faces socioeconomic inequality in the present day of India in *The White Tiger*, the events leading up to this point in time began in 1947, the year India obtained independence from Britain as a result of the Indian Independence Act. The act's declaration of India's independence from Hindu rule ultimately stoked racial tensions, which gave rise to Muslim Pakistan. Shortly after India gained its freedom in the 1960s, the caste system was abolished. Every Indian's social standing has been tightly regulated by the system for generations, if not longer. According to Balram, the breakdown of the caste system brought in disorder and confusion, which in turn exacerbated inequality. An enthralling story, *The White Tiger* takes place in modern, economically prosperous India. In 1991, the Indian government narrowly avoided bankruptcy by launching an economic reform program and obtaining a large loan from the International Monetary Fund. The outcome was rapid economic growth and a steady stream of investment from outside the country.

### **Other Books Related to the White Tiger**

Many authors' works, spanning many centuries, have influenced Adiga's own writing. Three African-American authors—Ralph Ellison, James Baldwin, and Richard Wright—are discussed in his book, *The White Tiger*. Adiga used Balram's story to highlight the injustices that millions of poor Indians still endure today, much as Ellison's *Invisible Man* seeks to elevate oppressed Black Americans in America. In the same way that Raskolnikov in *Crime and Punishment* rationalizes the robbery and murder of an innocent old lady by stating his unique wants and talents, Balram resolves to kill his master because he thinks he is entitled to live according to his own alternative moral standards. Furthermore, you could get a lot of knowledge by contrasting and comparing the two books.

### **The White Tiger**

Balram Halwai, a prosperous entrepreneur, writes to Chinese dignitary Wen Jiabao to help him get ready for his forthcoming visit to India. He was simply known as "boy" (Balram Munna) by his whole family. He got his nickname from a teacher. His family's religious practices produced his surname, which means "sweet-maker." Balram lived with his huge family in a little dwelling. Balram was a rickshaw driver, much like his son. Even if Balram struggled academically in public school, it shouldn't stop an inspector from naming him the "White Tiger," the most elusive monster. Grandma Kusum advised Balram to forego his education and take a job serving tea in order to help support their family financially.



### **Important points of white tiger**

Some of the numerous things that crossed my mind while reading the book are included below.

1. Balram represents all Indians who endure the daily horrors of oppression from their governing elites.
2. Due to the immense damage inflicted on their inherent vulnerability by the Indian system, oppressed persons primarily aim at securing their own survival.
3. The third point is that the growing economic disparity in India is shocking, given that the country is the biggest democracy on Earth.
4. as a last point, the Indian political elite is fascinating and unlike any other. Consistently calling upon the name of Mahatma Gandhi would have a snowball effect by day's end, leading to investigations into even the most heinous crimes.
5. In India, certain individuals have used democracy for their own gain, while the majority of us are bearing the consequences.

### **In 'White Tiger,' a Dickensian Rags-To-Riches Story Turns Psychological Thriller**

The White Tiger, a book by Aravind Adiga and Slumdog Millionaire, a film by Chaitanya Tripathi, both address the challenges that young Indians confront as a consequence of their country's increasing globalization. It is cynical and morally disgusting since the protagonist of Adiga's novel became wealthy by unethical means including lying and stealing. Twelve years after the upbeat Slumdog Millionaire, a film version of The White Tiger has been made, and it is darker and funnier than the original. A humorous comment on how the story continues after the million rupee reward is announced is included in the video.

Balram, played by the legendary Adarsh Gourav, narrates the tale via flashbacks. In the first scene, we meet Little Balram, a resident of a coal mining town. He would benefit greatly from going to school, but his overbearing grandma prohibits it, so he finds employment in a tea store instead.

### **CONCLUSION**

Aravind Adiga's "The White Tiger" provides an intriguing window into contemporary Indian society via its sociological aspects and personalities. This result should be considered: Last but not least, Aravind Adiga's "The White Tiger" brilliantly portrays the intricate social and economic stratification hierarchy in India as well as the nation's relentless pursuit of economic progress. A number of socioeconomic archetypes, along with the constraints and expectations placed on them, are evident throughout the piece. Among them are the ambitious but ethically ambiguous anti-hero Balram, the tortured symbol of opulence Mr. Ashok, and a plethora of supporting characters. Adiga offers a critical examination of the root factors that perpetuate inequality by demonstrating the far-reaching effects of class distinctions, corruption, and institutional injustice. Furthermore, the book explores the ethical challenges that people face when faced with widespread corruption. Balram makes a number of naïve and self-centered choices in his quest to avoid his death, which prompt the reader to



reflect on the constraints society imposes on personal autonomy. By reflecting on the interplay between aspirations, societal expectations, and the obstacles faced by individuals trying to escape their present circumstances, "The White Tiger" offers an introspective analysis of the topic. Think about the human toll of growth and the sacrifices required to advance socially as you conduct this introspective examination of India's larger economic and social environment.

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