



THE PSYCHE OF WOMEN CHARACTERS OF ANITA DESAI'S SELECTED NOVELS

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ABSTRACT:

The literature in Indian English has made remarkable contribution in the socio-culture development of Indian society. Kamala Markandaya, Arundhati Roy, Shashi Deshpande, Anita Desai, Shobha De are some of the important literary figures in Indian English Literature. Anita Desai is one of the most significant Indian women novelists. Her novels have focused upon the miserable life of women in India. Her experiences and knowledge about Indian society is very deep and outstanding. She has deeply studied the psyche of Indian women through the various resources. Anita Desai's multicultural family background has helped her in depicting the reality of Indian women in male dominating society. Her

novels reveal the alienation and detachment of her women characters. The psychology of characters gets disturbed completely due to the problems like loss of identity, isolated life, inferior treatment in family and complexity in human relationships.

KEYWORDS: Anxiety, Compatibility, Emotions, Psychology.

INTRODUCTION

Anita Desai is an Indian novelist and short story writer. She is well known for her characters' selection. Her all characters are the representative of men and women in Indian society. Desai is deeply concerned with the human relationship. The women have always been the centre of her novels. Being an Indian, Anita Desai has deep observation about the positive and negative changes in human relationships. Her approach towards life is very different and she honestly feels to encourage women in Indian society to struggle for their own

identity in home and in society as well.

Her novels 'Fire on the Mountain', 'Cry the Peacock' and 'Where Shall We Go this Summer?' are the most remarkable examples of how the women in India suffer in personal and married relationships. The three novels bring out the plight of women characters due to lack of love, care, sympathy and communication in very proper manner. Sita, Maya and Nanda are the major characters from three novels, each of them have different context of life but their suffering in personal and married relationship is the same in this research paper an attempt has been made to focus upon the psyche of women

characters of Anita Desai.

'FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN':

This is one of the best novels by Desai. In fact this novel differs from the other novels by her. It brings out the loss of identity, complexity in married and other relationships. Nanda Kaul is the major character in this novel. She is the wife of Vice Chancellor of Punjab University. The family is joint family in nature. The entire responsibilities of family are on Nanda. It is mandatory for her to look after the desires and demands of the family members. She has no relief from her family duties. However, she feels proud of her husband's highly respected career as Vice-Chancellor. She

